



Update on the Commission's University Eligibility Study for the Class of 2007

The Commission is collecting student transcript data from high schools for the 2007 University Eligibility Study. This study is the latest in a series that began in 1961 to estimate the percentage of California public high school graduates who meet the admission requirements of the California State University and the University of California. The studies are conducted by collecting a sample of transcripts from high schools throughout the state. The transcripts are reviewed by university admission staff to compare the courses taken by the sampled students and their grades and test scores with each system's eligibility requirements. Statewide eligibility rates are estimated from this sample.

Data Collection

Staff from Vangent Inc. is continuing to collect data from schools. Vangent is UC's contractor for collecting and handling student data for the Eligibility in the Local Context (ELC) program and has a system in place to collect student transcript information from schools' student information systems. Data collection is now about half complete. As of early March, 2008, Vangent had collected data from 97 schools and is arranging for data transmission for an additional 30 schools. Vangent staff hope to complete data collection by the end of March.

Staff at the Commission and UC's Office of the President are also contacting schools. Initially, Vangent contacted schools that it had worked with on the ELC program. In February 2008, Commission and UC staff began to call schools that were in the sample but had not previously worked with Vangent. They are identifying a contact person at each school who will work with Vangent to transmit the transcript data. Some schools have expressed concerns about the study and a few have declined to participate. Commission management is contacting these schools to address any concerns.

Review of Transcripts

As transcript information is collected, it will be loaded into a computerized evaluation system. This system incorporates UC's and CSU's evaluation rules and matches courses and grades on each student's record with the courses approved as meeting UC and CSU eligibility requirements. This process gives a preliminary determination of UC and CSU eligibility for each student. Results are then reviewed by UC and CSU admissions staff.

Transcript information for 97 schools has been evaluated by the computerized system. As of early March 2008, CSU staff had reviewed the results from 62 of these schools and UC staff had reviewed results from 29. Vangent has received test score information from the College Board for students at the sampled schools. These scores are being added to the evaluation system and will be used to give a final determination of eligibility based on each system's eligibility index and test requirements.

Review of transcript information will be completed by August 2008. Senior UC and CSU admission staff will review these results and produce eligibility results by September 2008. Staff at the Commission, UC, and CSU will then conduct statistical analyses to estimate statewide eligibility rates from the sample. A report on UC and CSU eligibility rates will be released no later than late fall 2008.